

The Times-Dispatch.

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From June 1st the price of The Times-Dispatch, delivered by carrier within the corporate limits of Richmond and Manchester, is 12 cents per week, or 50 cents per calendar month.

Persons leaving the city for the summer should order The Times-Dispatch mailed to them. Price, 50 cents per month.

A PUBLIC MISFORTUNE.

Richmond is suffering in more ways than one from the strike, especially from the disorder that has come along with it. It is a well known fact, however painful it may be to admit it, that there is much prejudice against Richmond in some parts of the State, and it will do us no good to become a burden to the taxpayers. It has been given out that it is costing the State of Virginia two thousand dollars a day to maintain order in Richmond and vicinity, and the tax-payers of the State will not love Richmond any the more for putting this burden upon them. In vain will we plead that the great majority of our people are in favor of law and order. The fact is that the soldiers have been brought here to suppress riot, and the whole city will be held responsible for it.

It is true that out of \$2,212,000 collected by the State on account of real, personal, income and capitation taxes, Richmond pays \$288,000, or more than ten per cent. But people do not stop to consider such details.

When riot broke out in the coal fields at Pocahontas several years ago, there was bitter complaint, as we recall, of the expense incurred in restoring peace. It was to be expected, however, that in a strike like that, where the strikers were composed very largely of foreigners, there would be lawless outbreaks. But the idea that practically all the soldiers in the State must be brought to Richmond in order to keep our own people from destroying life and property has disgusted the whole State, and the tax-payers resent the idea of having to pay two thousand dollars a day to make the people at the capital city behave.

There is another consideration. Richmond and Manchester have been advertising far and wide as desirable places for investment. We have urged outsiders to come here and build factories and start various enterprises, giving them assurance that their investments would pay. Mr. Gould, one of the richest men in the country, finally came and bought up our street car lines, but the property had hardly come into his possession before he had a disastrous strike on his hands and before terrific assaults were made on his property.

We are not making a plea for Mr. Gould, nor are we rebuking the men for striking. If they were not satisfied with their situation they had a perfect right to strike, no matter who owned the road. But that Mr. Gould's property should be wantonly destroyed and that his employees should be stoned and fired upon, and that the very life of his enterprise should be threatened in this community, must make him feel a little sore over his investment in Richmond. Mr. Gould has a wide acquaintance and large influence among men of means, but we fear that if this thing goes on much longer he will not be apt to advise any of his friends to invest their money in Richmond and Manchester.

It is disagreeable to have to say these things, but we, as citizens of Richmond, might as well be frank with ourselves. We are suffering, and we are going to suffer, for this season of riot, and the longer it is continued the greater our suffering will be.

How long will we, as a sensible and law-abiding people, permit this state of things to continue? It is our own affair, and the sooner we return to our normal condition and send the soldiers home, the better it will be. It is time for the patriotism and common sense of the Richmond to assert themselves.

A FARMERS' TRUST.

One of the most interesting trusts in the United States is the Farmers' Trust, which is described by H. A. Wood in the July number of the World's Work. The headquarters of this trust are at Rockwell, a little town on the plains of Iowa, and are hundred farmers compose the organization. The company is regularly incorporated under the laws of the State, and there is one meeting a year only of the stockholders. The articles of incorporation set forth the general nature of the business to be "buying and selling and dealing in all kinds of farm and dairy products, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, and goods and merchandise generally, and in buying and selling all such kinds of property on commission and otherwise." At no time has the capital stock been more than \$25,000, and at no time has the indebtedness been more than \$5,000, yet dur-

ing the three years of its existence the company has transacted more than \$5,000,000 worth of business without the loss of a dollar. Last year, with an expense for salaries, rent, insurance, etc., of less than \$4,000, they carried on a business of more than \$200,000.

No person may become a shareholder unless he be a practical farmer, and no member may own more than ten shares of stock at a face value of \$10 per share. There are few employees, and the business practically carries on itself. The company buys all of the output of its members and sells to the farmers what they need. Other than members may buy, but such trade is not especially sought. Supplies are sold at a little above cost to the stockholders, but outsiders pay slightly more. The company owns its own elevator for the storage of grain and merchandise and its own lumber yard.

Contrary to the method of other trusts, this trust invites competition, as illustrated by the following incident: It was discovered by the grain dealers that the trusts were paying more through its agents for grain than the grain dealers thought it should pay. The farmers were remonstrated with, but replied that they were satisfied that they had been receiving too little for their grain, and hence raised the price.

The grain dealers, unable to bring the farmers to terms, then threatened to put an agent in town to outbid them, and also threatened to sell farmers supplies below the trust price and to put up an elevator opposite to the trust elevator and pay fifty cents for corn, when the farmers could pay only forty-five cents.

But the farmers composing the trust were in no way disturbed by this threat. On the contrary, they told the grain dealers to come right along. "We are paying more for produce now," said they, "than is being paid by any town in the State. We are selling to ourselves at lower rates than those of any other dealer in the State. If you can come in and pay us more than we can afford to pay, and sell to us lower than we can sell, we will gain both ways. If you establish a grain elevator opposite our own and pay more than we do, we will go there and sell to you."

Railed in this, the grain dealers threatened to influence the railroad company to stop shipping the produce and supplies of the farmers. But as the farmers were good customers of the railroad, and as the railroad was compelled by law to haul, this threat, of course, amounted to nothing.

Next came the dealers in agricultural implements, who complained that the farmers were selling to themselves at wholesale rates, and insisted that they should stop doing so. But the farmers replied that this was a free country, and they had a right to buy and sell as they saw fit. If these dealers would not sell to them, they would look to others. And so that threat fell to the ground.

That is one of the finest trusts we ever heard of, and we are glad to know it is getting along so prosperously. It is the right of farmers, as well as others, to organize for their own protection and benefit; it is their right to get as much as they can for their products and to purchase their supplies as cheaply as possible, and all efforts from whatever source to prevent them from doing either is an effort at trespass and is not to be tolerated. Hurrah for the Farmers' Trust of Iowa! We wish there were such trusts in Virginia.

SENATOR BURTON'S PLAN.

Several days ago we discussed briefly Senator Burton's plan to store the surplus waters of the Mississippi to prevent overflows and to irrigate arid lands with the surplus.

Mr. R. D. Haislip, late editor of the Staunton News, and now of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, who has given the question study, says that the plan is not original with Senator Burton. He says that he and others have written on the subject from time to time, and he thinks that this is the only plan which offers a satisfactory solution of the problem.

In further discussing the subject Mr. Haislip says:

"No doubt many of your readers think that if a stone wall were constructed on each bank of the river and carried to considerable height, nothing more would be to be formed in the Mississippi valley within its bounds. Or this being prohibitive, on account of cost, they cannot understand why the levees already there cannot be strengthened and carried to a sufficient height to afford adequate protection."

"Are they or yourself aware of the fact that the mud held in suspension in the water is constantly settling, and that through this process of sedimentation the bed of the river is constantly filling up, causing the water level to rise higher and higher all the time?"

"Well, this is what is taking place. I was born in Louisiana not far from the Mississippi River, and through the Civil War I lived as a boy back from Vicksburg on one of the numerous bays that were formed in the Mississippi lowlands. At that time little attention was paid to the levees, and many of them were cut. When the high waters came they spread over the whole Mississippi alluvial region, and in places the water would be six feet wide. It went over the plantations a few feet to a few inches deep, all the bays and lagoons were swollen, and for a day or two there was some inconvenience from it, but because of the immense area over which the waters spread there were not the disastrous results that come from a flow of waters that suddenly burst their bounds. There are compensations in every overflow of this kind, which enriches and renews the soil."

"Note the change that has taken place in the height of the levees from that day to this. I venture to say that the levees of to-day are from ten to fifteen feet higher than they were at the beginning of the Civil War, and if any of the old levees can be found as I have no doubt they can, I believe this disparity will appear. The effort to confine the waters has necessitated building higher and higher—the channel filled up, so that now in high water when you travel on the Mississippi by boat you look down way below to see the houses, the land and the people. This bank of earth, soft alluvial earth at that, is all that prevents the waters from tumbling over the houses and the people. Every time the waters rise they bring fresh mud to disperse in the bottom of the river, and for every inch of mud that accumulates on the bottom an inch more of dirt must be put on top of the levees."

"As a result the struggle of the waters to get set free to the lower level where the houses and the people are, becomes intensified. Nature at times gets the better of the struggle, and a break occurs, followed by disaster."

"Where is the piling up of the waters to do, and what is to be the result?"

"Now, as to the alternative. There are

along the Mississippi and its tributaries great basins of a lower level than the lands in cultivation; swamp lands, old channels once occupied by the main stream, and the like, that might be cleaned out and made still more capacious, into which much of the surplus waters might be turned, relieving the pressure on the levees farther down the river. Never would the expense, probably, be great. Whether this diverted water could be used to advantage in irrigation is a problem for the engineer. Probably much of it could profitably be so used. Nature has prepared the storage basins. In my opinion the day is not very distant when necessity will drive the government to adopt some plan of diversion, in conjunction with the levee system. If the water so diverted can be then used for irrigating purposes, so much the better for the economic development of the country."

"The peonage system," so called, in Alabama and some other States is now the subject of sharp criticism and rigid investigation. It has been made possible—what there is of it—under laws which provide that if the renter of a house or a contract laborer abrogates his contract and ceases to pay rent or to labor for the contractor, he may be arrested and farmed out to labor, without compensation and under guard, to whomsoever bids for his time. Petty offenders are also liable to laws of like character."

It is alleged by some newspaper writers that the condition of the "peon" is "worse than that of the slaves used to be." We may well believe, as the slave had a master whose interest it was to see him well cared for. However, we do not credit all that we read about the peon system in Alabama. Abuses of existing laws no doubt there are, and they ought to be corrected, but the sensational press is engaged in writing up stories which we must discount largely.

The matter has become the subject of investigation now, and has awakened the attention of the religious community, and we have no doubt the faults in the law will be discovered and vigorous remedies applied.

In connection with the important decision of the Supreme Court of Appeals in the case of Taylor vs. the Commonwealth, it should have been stated by us that in the absence of the Attorney-General, on account of sickness, Mr. A. C. Braxton, of Staunton, filed a very able and conclusive argument in the case. He appeared for the Commonwealth, but declined to accept any compensation whatever for his services.

The Parisian sculptor, Jose de Chemo, is working on a statue of Edgar Allan Poe. A correspondent of the Baltimore American says it will be "a remarkable production," and that a sketch of the work already has gone to America. What disposition is to be made of the statue, when finished, is not stated. Perhaps Richmond might secure it, if our people wish to do so.

At the White House dinner Sir Thomas Lipton caused much surprise when he said that if he should win the cup this time it would represent an investment of considerably more than \$2,000,000. This year's expenses will amount to over \$1,000,000. He unhesitatingly says that if he loses this year he will try again.

Senator Lodge denies that he wishes to become chairman of the National Republican Committee. He favors the retention of Mr. Hanna.

So does the President, who has so stated in person to Mr. Hanna. The latter said he would give the matter serious consideration, though he had almost made up his mind to retire.

Mr. Carnegie is said to be buying up quite a number of old fossils. He can find an abundant supply in many parts of old Virginia if he will take the animated kind.

Floods and cyclones will take a back seat next week, when the New York Tribune's annual returns from the 4th of July fireworks come in.

Now is the time for some American helms to make a deal with "nobility." King Pete is a gay widower, and needs funds very badly.

Speaking of the Wilmington, Delaware, lynching, it must be admitted that with similar provocation pretty much the same thing might have happened in Mississippi or Texas.

The Associated Press gravely informs us that Mr. Cleveland expects while at Buzzard's Bay to do some fishing. "Some fishing" is good.

Jett's and White's punishment is already greater than they can bear. At the Lexington jail they have been deprived of whiskey rations.

Eighty-six cents per bushel for new wheat does very well as a starter. Dollar wheat is not impossible this year.

Hon. Charles Emory Smith's postal scandal explanation differed from some others in that it did some explaining.

A very good time for the peacemaker to get in his work is just before the row commences.

O, well, June isn't the only month in the matrimonial calendar. There is nothing the matter with July.

With a Comment or Two.

The Trigg creditors ought to be well pleased with getting a government bond instead of a rusting mass of steel. The plates—Newport News Times-Herald.

They are. Did you think they wanted the earth?

"We judge from the silence that has fallen over the esteemed Commoner that Col. Bryan has withdrawn the name of Judge Coker from the contest for the U. S. Senate. The Richmond Times-Dispatch looks at it. We suspect that Mr. Bryan is playing the part of stage manager, and is introducing light specialties to the audience while he prepares the stage for the grand finale—Montgomery Advertiser.

Blackstone may now claim to be a double-barreled prohibition town—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Oh, no, not a double-barrel but a repeater—Blackstone Courier.

Half Hour With Virginia Editors.

The Petersburg Index-Appeal remarks: The North and the South, in perfect good fellowship, are swapping evils. The North is getting our lynchings, and we are getting its strikes. Apparently, the North is getting the best of the bargain.

Here is a brief lecture from the Manassas Journal: It is time the white people of the South took some steps to protect the colored man in the land of his birth. The troublemaker and Westerner is getting too handy with the torch and gun. Crimes are terrible, horrible, sometimes almost indescribable, and a dangerous menace to our very civilization.

Discussing the Delaware lynching case, the Northampton Times says: Virginia courts have finally realized the efficacy of promptness in such cases, and it is hoped that the popular desire for Northern aid in the case of Delawareans will serve as a lesson for the future guidance of their judiciary, should there ever be another occasion for consideration of a like case—which God forbid.

The Newport News Times-Herald says: By endorsing Roosevelt for 1908 the Virginia Republicans show a disposition not only to be in the band wagon, but to sit on the front seat and drive.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot shies this brick: Hon. Campbell Siemon has jumped right into the role of the Elijah of the Republican outfit with unbounded zeal. A new man is needed, as the old ones have worn their prophetic departments threadbare.

Remarks About Richmond. Newport News Press: The Richmond Council's Investigating Committee will hardly take advantage of the presence of Pinkerton detectives in town to call them in for consultation.

Norfolk Ledger: It is all right for the Mayor of Richmond's sympathies to be with the strikers, if he so wishes, but he has acted wisely in making a public announcement of it while attempting to quell the mob and the lawless and disorderly conduct of his followers. "I am with you, boys," will probably be a lesson to him.

Newport News Times-Herald: The Richmond base-ball club was unable to pull itself out of the kindergarten class.

Suffolk Herald: Without passing on the points at issue between the striking street-railway men and their employers in Richmond, it is to be regretted that in the State there is so much lawlessness and disorder, and so much sympathy with lawlessness and disorder.

Farmville Herald: We have a tender sympathy for Richmond, the pet of all Virginia, in this her hour of trial. Conventions all gone, legislators in the corn fields, shipyard closed and pressing necessities to walk in midsummer. Sorry trouble is upon her in her hour of trial. But Richmond has been often tried as if by fire and as yet there is not even a shadow of her glory. Though she has to walk alone, "get there."

North Carolina Sentiment.

Here is the way the Charlotte Observer looks at the matter: The two big lynchings man northward and the southward march of the strike-riot, as demonstrated at Wilmington, Del., and Richmond, Va., look as if the time of the peculiarly sectional evil had passed.

The Raleigh News-Observer says: What is a good character? In a recent trial in North Carolina a person accused of crime proved "a good character" by good conduct in his life. He was a man who was drunk and the alibi he sought to prove placed him in a house of ill-fame, and such a man he said to be a man of good character?

The Warrenton Record, speaking of the proposed work of the Anti-Saloon League in the State, says: The present temperance movement in North Carolina bids fair to accomplish good. Being non-political, non-sectarian, not radical, it can unite all who desire to promote the cause of temperance in the State.

The Raleigh Post says: The Democrats of Iowa, in State Convention assembled, by a very large majority, voted down a proposal to make the Kansas City platform. Democracy is coming round all right.

The Durham Herald says: The Virginia Republicans have endorsed Mr. Roosevelt for the nomination. Southern Republicans like Southern Democrats, can be depended upon to endorse anything that their parties may do.

Decreasing Disorder.

The Mayor of Richmond has stopped the police as well as the militia, and he did not want to increase the disorder.—Newport News Times-Herald.

DAILY FASHION HINTS.

GIRL'S FROCK.

Box-pleated dresses in Russian style still continue to be popular. The design shown here for a little miss is capable of several variations. The box-pleat effect in front and back may be simply stitched or may be trimmed with round bands of lace reaching from neck to hem. The dress may be made of a lower grade of dress; or may be embellished by hand embroidery or French knots along the line of box-pleats, and in the front.

The skirt is circular and gives a pretty flare at the lower edge, which is so becoming to childish figures.

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CHAPTER XVI.
SAIL HO!

Such a situation as that aboard the Vulture could only be temporary. The very elements of it, the relations of those involved, and the celerity with which instinctive distrust always seizes and acts upon suspicious circumstances, made it impossible to avert for any long duration a clash and crisis of some sort.

Yet Walton's strategy, born of utter desperation, proved efficacious through the succeeding day and until the afternoon of that following. By transferring Redlaw to his stateroom, by having Lady Somers seen in company with him by the cook during the latter's duties below, and by Walton's representations above board, it was very generally accepted that the pirate's seclusion was entirely voluntary. But against this, even with the implied intimation, an opposition sooner or later would surely arise.

Still securely bound, guarded by one believed to be faithful, with his early inclination turned to important wrath, Redlaw lay glaring from his berth at the face of the man watching beside him.

This was Lieut. Robert Vail, late of Her Majesty's cruiser "War Hawk," and now bound by the oath of a traitor and coward to loyal service aboard the pirate Vulture. But there was little of loyalty in the look with which he now met Redlaw's glare, and the vengeful austerity of his bloodless features, and the nervous impatience with which he toyed with the knife at his belt, were not significant of fidelity to the vow the pirate had imposed. Alternating with Ben Logan, while Walton rigorously performed his own duties, one of the two had constantly been on guard at Redlaw's side, as yet unsuspected by the crew.

That through some power over this man Vail the pirate had cherished a secret hope of deliverance, the failure of which was fast turning him into a man of life, would have been apparent had there been others to have heard their subdued but bitter intercourse at just that time.

"Well, what d'ye say? Will you do it, or not?" Redlaw demanded, as one whose questions had been many times vainly repeated.

Vail answered him with bitter decisiveness. "I say what I've said from the first—can't trust you, and won't live nothing to insure me that you'll be as false in this as in the other."

"You have my word! It's all I can give you!"

"And I already have proved its worthlessness. I say no! I'll not do it."

Redlaw sent a series of bitter imprecations.

"You're a cursed fool!" he hoarsely argued, wringing his head in his narrow berth. "D'ye think this situation can last? It must have an ending—and by G—d, I'll end you with it. I'm insured you or that much! Will you do it, or not?"

"No, I'll not do it!"

It's your only hope of besting this devil Vulture, along with all the rest. Even if you all were to escape me, which God knows I'll prevent, the end of my life, you'd have no further chance against the love your sweetheart now bears him! She'd give herself to him body and soul for the mere asking! D'ye know that?"

"Yes, I know it!"

"With the curt responses, made with intense and bitter virulence, there rose to Vail's white countenance a mingling of jealousy and hatred that betrayed, far beyond words, his murderous sentiments against the man he loved. And yet, his recent observations of Emily had detected the girl's loving passion; too keenly he realized in how far Walton had been in the way of his own aspirations, and too well he knew that by his removal only could he hope to reclaim a heart and hand long felt to become his own. But while treachery to his own heart under some circumstances, those of the present were desperate beyond the daring of one himself a coward and traitor."

"Aye, I know it," he repeated, with eyes as cold as the pirate's own. "But her passion for this common seaman—"

"Fudge, you fool! It's enough for her that he's not a common man, if a common seaman. I tell you he owns her, or will. If he will, you offer her to me, given a way to best him, to sink him out of your course forever. Turn traitor to him now, set me free, or even give Sargeants a hint of the situation here, and I'll reward you with a goodly woman safe ashore in Melbourne. What d'ye say? Will you do it?"

The offer was a great temptation, but the girl's face, as Vail looked at it, would not let him. "If I could trust you—but I can't!" said Vail, decisively. "No, I will not chance it."

"You know the alternative?"

"D'ye think I'll not make good the threat?" demanded Redlaw, with brutal asperity. "By heaven, you shall see! I delay only to serve my own end. If I do not free you, I'll set you free. If I'm not free by to-morrow, so help me God, I'll expose you! I'll bring you by my terms, or ruin your hopes, my hearty, make sure of that! What d'ye say? Will you do it?"

With murder itself in his pale blue eyes, the miscreant seated near the berth bent nearer, losing his knife from his grasp. "No, I'll not do it!" he replied, slowly, hissing out the words through his set teeth. "And I say this, also, Redlaw. If I am in your power in a way, so now, at least, are you in mine also. I thought you would do what you have threatened, I would kill you here and now! Nor will I go far from you from this out! If I hear from your lips one word of betrayal, I'll not wait for Vail's further orders! I will cut your infernal throat with the first word that tends to expose me and my—"

But there, while the face of either depicted passionate action, the other, he abruptly checked himself, starting hurriedly up and darting to the open door. The fall of feet on the companion stairs and alarm to him, and stern, fairly met him in the cabin floor.

"What's wrong?" Vail gasped quickly. "Anything new?"

"No, I don't know," said Walton, anxiously. "I got the signal from Ben that he wishes to see me. He should have been here by this time."

The voice of the man sounded strange and unnatural. That he felt more than any other the awful burden of peril and suspense; that on him the stress of anxiety was telling most severely, was vividly apparent. But his abrupt check, his dread and misgivings were not because of self; far from it; and only his love for another, for a life and honor dearer far than his own, could have compassed such a mental and physical strain. But despite appearances, the will of the man was still supreme.

Scarcely had he spoken in reply to Vail when a sound came from the vessel's hold; and at the same time both Lady Somers and Emily, who had heard Walton's voice, appeared from their room. On

them Walton bestowed only a faint smile, that of an encouragement which was never wanting, despite his own secret fears; and, turning at once to the seaman, he quickly asked:

"Why did you signal me, Ben?"

"Because I wanted a word with you, lad," the old seaman gravely answered, still cleaving to the fond term of comradeship with which he always had addressed him. "Some of the dirty lubbers for'ard are wearin' looks not to my liking. They're not pleased with the turn of things, lad, that's plain enough. 'Tain't like seamen to sit long with out a sight of the cap'n, even though a pretty woman's below. And afore bad comes to wuss, lad, I'd say we'd best plan how to meet it."

Renewed apprehensions, a fear the fate thus far averted might, at the swift in overtaking them, send a deeper pallor to the cheeks of Lady Somers and Emily. Even the features of Vail underwent a change that betrayed his feelings, and he fell as if overcome by his own emotions, remaining as coldly composed as if the bitter determination with which he was inspired had turned the outer man to stone.

"Have the men said anything that furthers these misgivings, Ben?" he asked.

"Not afore me, lad," said Ben, with a shake of his gray head. "But looks and actions speak louder'n words, lad, at times."

"That's true enough," admitted Walton. "Yet I don't wish to provoke a more desperate situation by any hasty action, if it still can be averted. My plan was thus far carried, and I hope by to-morrow to have run the vessel so near a port that a night escape may be effected in one of the boats, and a harbor safely made."

But Ben Logan again shook his head. "The sooner done the better, lad, if that's your plan," he said, gravely. "The men'll not stand by to run the vessel and themselves into danger, save takin' your orders now only in fear of him, lad, and that can't last much longer. It shows plain enough in their ugly faces, lad."

"Have you sounded the hands taken from the Nord Brandt?"

"Aye, lad, in a way. But I reckon they'll shrink from taking too long a chance. It's not a matter of life and death with 'em now, lad, as 'twas afore. Have you any suggestion to offer?"

"I have!" Vail impulsively exclaimed. "He started out from the door through which he had been watching Redlaw. His eyes were brighter now. Some of that desperate spirit had risen within him, which the taunt of Walton on the Nord Brandt's after deck had inspired, and which had lifted him to heroism in the ensuing combat with the Tartar pirates."

"I advise at once a more aggressive move," he eagerly explained. "I can make better now than later, if what Ben Logan says is true. By strategy we should be able to get at least a part of the crew under the hatches and confine them there. With the help of the Nord Brandt's men we may be able to overcome the rest."

"And then?" queried Walton, with a curious expression appearing in the depths of his eyes.

"Then run the vessel straight into port," cried Vail, decisively. "The traitor aboard her will reveal to us. Her knavish crew will meet their just deserts. It can be